

January - February
2013



Electrical Aggregation Program Passes

As a result of the passage of a referendum in the November 6 election, Village residents will soon be able to choose to participate in a "government aggregation." The "opt-out" program of aggregation was passed and this means that all residents and small businesses will automatically be enrolled in the program unless they choose to not participate ("opt-out"). The electrical aggregation program allows residents to save an average of 20-35% on electric supply. The Village is negotiating favorable terms of the contract on behalf of our citizens. No one is forced to be a part of the aggregation and residents have the choice to opt-out at any time for no charge. There is no risk involved for residents because they can switch back to Ameren supply rates if their rates become lower.

Currently, the Village is working its way through the process and the first of two public hearings was held on December 10. The purpose of the public hearings is to receive public commentary on the Village's draft Plan of Operation and Governance for its municipal electric aggregation program. **The second public hearing will be held on January 14 at 5:45 p.m. at the Williamsville Community Center, 141 W. Main Street.** This hearing will serve the same purpose. Copies of the draft Plan of Operation and Governance and each of the applicable documents are on file and are available for inspection at the Village Clerk's Office, in the Village Hall, during regular business hours. All persons interested in these proceedings are invited to be heard. Persons with disabilities may contact the Village Clerk for special accommodations.

We will continue to keep residents informed as we move through the aggregation process.

"Thank You"

The Williamsville Community Foundation would like to extend a big "thank you!" to everyone who provided cookies for the "Santa Comes to Town" event on December 1. Also, "thank you" Nick Menke for putting the train display together for everyone's enjoyment. We appreciate you!

Important Dates to Remember:

VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS will be held as follows: January 14 & 28; February 11 & 25.

THE VILLAGE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED on Tuesday, January 1, 2013 for New Year's Day; Monday, January 21, 2013 for Martin Luther King's Birthday; Tuesday, February 12, 2013 for Lincoln's Birthday; and Monday, February 18, 2013 for President's Day.

Please Remember...

The cardboard recycling bin behind the Police Station is not to be used for Holiday wrapping paper, bows and ribbon. Please contact your local waste hauler to check on recycling options for gift wrap.

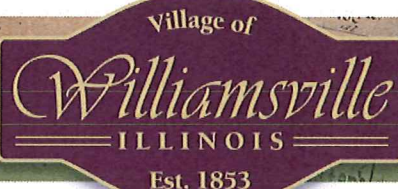
Local Business Directory

The Village of Williamsville will be putting together a "Local Business Directory" in the first few months of 2013. Local businesses will be invited to put flyers and/or coupons into a "Welcome to Williamsville" packet of information geared for new residents. Specifications for these inserts are in the development stage, but business owners will be contacted as soon as they are determined. In the meantime, if you own a local business and are potentially interested in participating, please contact the Village Hall at 566-3806.

Memorial Bricks

If you are interested in purchasing a brick in support of the Memorial Arch, please contact the Village Office as soon as possible. Deadline for submission of paperwork and \$50 payment is January 20, 2013.

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Have you noticed the decorations on the Boulevard this Holiday season? Thank the members of these two organizations!

The Williamsville Garden Club

The Williamsville Garden Club's mission is to provide education, resources, and networking opportunities to its members; promote and support the revitalization of historic downtown Williamsville, the beautification of the Village and other community activities; and encourage conservation and green living in the community.

Members of the Garden Club have been involved in designing the banners that are used around the Village and they fill the containers to decorate for the holidays. They also design and plant new beds around the Village and maintain them. In the spring, the Garden Club works with the High School in the greenhouse, raising stock for the containers around the Village and then using these plants to fill containers for the summer months. Also in the spring, the Club works with the Library to present a "Backyard Basics Program," staffing and answering gardening questions/concerns, presenting the program, and holding a plant sale during the event. The Garden

Club also has a booth during the Fall Festival where they raffle off gardening items and solicit information from members of the community on what they would like to see around the Village.

The Club encourages anyone interested in gardening and Village beautification to join them when they meet on the first Saturday of the month. Please check our calendar for the meeting time and place or phone/email or text Linda Wise at 566-3495 or lw@casscomm.com.

The Williamsville Community Foundation

The Williamsville Community Foundation was organized in 1989 and relies on local support and donations for charitable and educational purposes. The Foundation was organized to promote and provide financial support to the Williamsville Historical Library and Museum; to promote historic preservation and historic education within the Village of Williamsville; to sponsor fundraising events to offset the expenses of funding the Williamsville Historical Library and Museum and/or other community related activities; and, to encourage and promote good will and fellowship within the community of Williamsville.

The Foundation sponsors annual events which include an Easter Egg Hunt at the Park, a Fourth of July Celebration, the Fall Festival and Santa's Visit. Recurring events (Bingo, Quarter Auctions and Junior High Dances) serve as fundraisers for the Foundation which, in turn, supports residents in need, as well as school organizations and community groups.

Annual elections are held at the first meeting in January each year. This year's meeting is January 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the Village Hall. Regular meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. If you're interested in joining a group of community oriented, hard-working individuals and want to make a difference in the Village, please attend a meeting this year!

Timely Topics

Winter Pet Care Tips

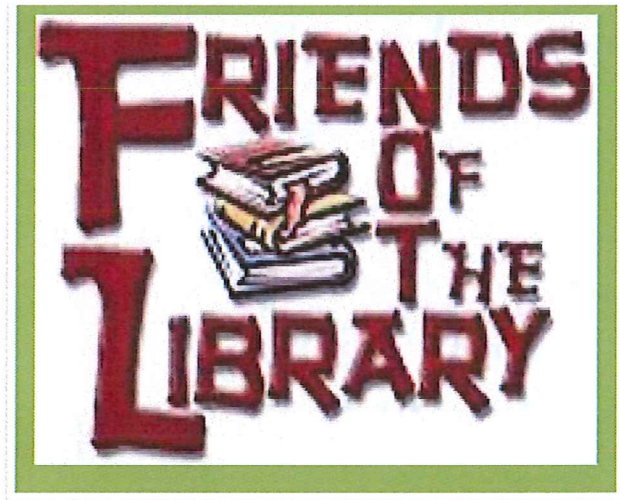
If your pet spends a lot of time outside or must live outdoors, you are required by law to provide them with proper shelter. A proper dog house must be windproof and watertight, with a floor elevated a few inches off the ground to prevent moisture accumulation. The dog house floor should be covered with cedar shavings or straw; not cloth blankets, which hold water and can freeze. The house should be turned to face away from the wind and the doorway should be covered with waterproof burlap or heavy plastic. If your pet is in a pen, you might block the wind and water with bales of straw and stretch canvas over the top of the pen. Bring pets inside when the wind chill or other weather conditions become severe.

Pets which spend a lot of time outdoors need more food in the winter because keeping warm depletes energy. Outdoor dogs also need additional fat in their diets during the winter to help build up natural insulation. Routinely check your pet's water dish to make certain the water is fresh and unfrozen. Use plastic food and water bowls rather than metal; when the temperature is low, your pet's tongue can stick and freeze to metal.

Animals are attracted to anti-freeze by its sweet taste. It can be fatal if ingested, so keep all anti-freeze bottles out of your animal's reach. Also, be sure to clean up any spills in your garage or driveway immediately. If your dog or cat should swallow anti-freeze – or any poison – contact your veterinarian immediately.

In cold weather, cats and small wildlife may crawl beneath cars and climb up inside the engines seeking warmth and shelter. This can lead to injuries or death when car engines are started. To avoid injuring any hidden animals, bang on your car's hood or sound your horn to scare them away before starting your car in cold weather.

Remember that your animal companion(s) deserve to be indoors when the weather outside is extreme.



Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Williamsville Public Library will be meeting on January 10, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the library. This friends group will only be meeting twice a year. So, here is your chance to help plan additional services, programs and materials for the library to offer. We will share the results of our recent survey and announce our selections for the new Friends of the Williamsville Public Library Book Club scheduled to meet on Thursday, February 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the library. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Friends group or participating in the book club (don't have to be a member), please call the library at 566-3520.

Snow Removal

It's that time of year again! Village staff will be doing their best to keep our roads cleared, but we need your help. Please make sure that your vehicle(s) are NOT parked on the street during snow and/or ice storms. Main arteries will be cleared before secondary streets and cul-de-sacs. Please be patient and know that we will get to your road as soon as possible.

Remember to keep your children from playing in snow drifts alongside the roads. It is difficult for drivers and equipment operators to see them as the streets are being cleared. Thanks!



Williamsville Volunteer Fire Department

Chief: Brian Mendenhall
Assistant Chief: Tommy Nases

Chief's Note

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you for your support over the past year. If you have an old car or building you are trying to get rid of, please keep us in mind. We can and do use both in our training. We will have the car towed or building inspected and give you a tax deduction for a charitable contribution.

Safety Tip: Carbon Monoxide

Each year in America, more than 150 people die from accidental non-fire related carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning associated with consumer products. CO, often called "the silent killer," is a gas you cannot see, taste, or smell. It can be created when fossil fuels, such as kerosene, gasoline, coal, natural gas, propane, methane or wood do not burn properly. CO poisoning can result from faulty furnaces or other heating appliances, portable generators, water heaters, clothes dryers or cars left running in garages. Symptoms of CO poisoning include headache, nausea and drowsiness. Exposure to undetected high levels of carbon monoxide can be fatal.

CO Alarm Installation: Choose a CO alarm that has the label of a recognized testing laboratory. CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each separate sleeping area, on every level of the home, and in other locations where required by applicable laws, codes or standards. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height. CO alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms and vice versa. Know the difference between the sound of smoke alarms and the sound of CO alarms.

CO Precautions: Have fuel-burning heating equipment (fireplaces, furnaces, water heaters, wood stoves, coal stoves, space heaters and portable heaters) and chimneys inspected by a professional every year. Open the damper for proper ventilation before using a fireplace. Never use your oven or stovetop to heat your home. The CO gas might kill people and pets. Make sure all fuel-burning vented equipment is vented to the outside to avoid CO poisoning. Keep the venting for exhaust clear and unblocked. If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Never run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe of a running vehicle is not blocked with snow, ice or other materials. Make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow and other debris. Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas away from all doors, windows, vents and other building openings to prevent exhaust fumes from entering the home.

If the CO Alarm Sounds: Immediately move to a fresh air location (outdoors or by an open window or door). Make sure everyone inside the home is accounted for. Call 9-1-1 or the fire department from a fresh air location (outdoors or by an open window). Remain at a fresh air location until emergency personnel arrive to assist you.

For more information: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/citizens/co/fswy17.shtm>

The Williamsville Volunteer Fire Department is staffed by dedicated men and women of the community who respond 24/7, 365 days a year to fire, medical and other emergencies. Meetings are held every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a member of our team, call us at 566-3311 or visit us at one of our meetings.

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Williamsville Community Calendar

January

- January 1** New Year's Day – Village Office & Library Closed
- January 7** Williamsville Community Foundation Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Village Hall
- January 8** Coffee Hour at 10:00 a.m. at the Library
- January 8** BINGO at 7 p.m. Community Center
- January 9** Story Time at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- January 9** Library Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center
- January 10** Friends of the Williamsville Public Library Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Library
- January 10** Quarter Auction, 6:30 p.m. at Community Center
- January 12** WCF Junior High Dance, 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Comm. Center
- January 14** Electrical Aggregation Public Hearing 5:45 p.m. at Community Center
- January 14** Village Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- January 15** Coffee Hour at 10:00 a.m. at the Library
- January 16** Story Time at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- January 21** Martin Luther King Day – Village Office and Library are closed
- January 22** Coffee Hour at 10:00 a.m. at the Library
- January 23** Story Time at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- January 28** Village Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- January 29** Coffee Hour at 10:00 a.m. at the Library
- January 30** Story Time at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Library

February

- February 2** Garden Club Meeting
- February 4** Woodcarvers in the Community Center
- February 4** Williamsville Community Foundation Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Village Hall
- February 5** Coffee Hour at 10:00 a.m. at the Library
- February 5** Library Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- February 6** Story Time at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- February 7** Quarter Auction, 6:30 p.m. at Community Center
- February 9** WCF Junior High Dance 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- February 11** Village Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- February 12** Coffee Hour at 10:00 a.m. at the Library
- February 12** Lincoln's Birthday – Village Office closed
- February 12** BINGO at 7:00 p.m. Community Center
- February 13** Story Time at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- February 18** President's Day – Library and Village Office closed
- February 19** Coffee Hour at 10:00 a.m. at the Library
- February 20** Story Time at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- February 25** Village Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- February 26** Coffee Hour at 10:00 a.m. at the Library
- February 27** Story Time at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the Library
- February 28** Friends of the Williamsville Library

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Village Board Meetings

The regular semi-monthly meetings are scheduled for the second and fourth Monday of each month and will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall. The public is always encouraged to attend. Special board meetings and committee meetings are scheduled as needed. Dates and agendas for all meetings are posted on the board near the door of the Village Hall and may also be reviewed on the Village website

*Approved Minutes and Agendas
may be viewed at the Village Office or the website at
www.williamsville.illinois.gov*

Village of Williamsville

141 W. Main St.
217.566.3806

Office Hours

7:30-11:30 am
12:30 -3:30 pm
Monday-Friday

Village Fax
217.566.2105

Fire Non-
Emergency
217.566.3311

Police Non-
Emergency
217.566.3634

Water Emergency
217.306.5803

Library
217.566.3620

Post Office
217.566.3651

Village President
Thomas R. Yokley
217.306.0004

Economic
Development
Trustee
Valerie Patterson
217.414.0197

Streets, Alleys,
Sidewalks &
Storm Sewers
Trustee Mark Esker
217.566.3357

Water & Sewer
Trustee
Vacant

Public Safety
Trustee
Scott Butterfield
217.566.2050

Parks &
Recreation
Trustee
Dave Carter
217.566.2349

Finance
Trustee
Skylar Tierney
217.638.2402

Village Clerk
Karen Humphres
217.566.3806

Treasurer
Heidi Dowell
217.566.3806



VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSVILLE
141 W. MAIN STREET
WILLIAMSVILLE, IL 62693

BULK RATE
U S POSTAGE PAID
WILLIAMSVILLE, IL
PERMIT NO. 8

CURRENT WILLIAMSVILLE RESIDENT
WILLIAMSVILLE, IL 62693